

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (currently amended): A monoclonal antibody ~~against that selectively binds~~ canine cationic trypsin or a canine trypsin-related substance and/or canine cationic trypsinogen, but does not bind canine anionic trypsin nor canine anionic trypsinogen.

Claim 2 (canceled)

Claim 3 (currently amended): The monoclonal antibody according to Claim 1, which is an antibody to at least one member selected from the group consisting of (a) a protein of ~~SEQ ID NO: 1 or SEQ ID NO: 2 in the Sequence Listing,~~ or a salt thereof and (b) a peptide fragment thereof, or a salt thereof.

Claim 4 (canceled)

Claim 5 (currently amended): The monoclonal antibody according to Claim 1 which is an antibody to at least one member selected from the group consisting of

- (1) ~~a Thr¹⁶ to Ser²⁴⁷ amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1 in the Sequence Listing,~~
- (2) ~~an Ile²⁴ to Ser²⁴⁷ amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1 in the Sequence Listing,~~
- (3)(1) a Phe¹⁶ to Asn²⁴⁶ amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 ~~in the Sequence Listing,~~
and
- (4)(2) an Ile²⁴ to Asn²⁴⁶ amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 ~~in the Sequence Listing.~~

Claim 6 (currently amended): An immunoassay method for assaying at least one target analyte selected from the group consisting of canine cationic trypsin and canine cationic trypsinogen, trypsin and/or trypsinogen trypsin-like immunoreactivity (TLI) which method comprises ~~using an assay reagent containing~~ contacting the monoclonal antibody according to Claim 1 with a test sample, and assaying for the presence of canine cationic trypsin and/or canine cationic trypsinogen.

Claim 7 (currently amended): The immunoassay method according to Claim 6 wherein the ~~trypsin-like immunoreactivity (TLI)~~ canine cationic trypsin and/or canine cationic trypsinogen is a member selected from the group consisting of canine cationic trypsinogen, canine cationic trypsin and their complexes with inhibitors.

Claim 8 (currently amended): An immunoassay ~~reagent kit~~ reagent kit for assaying canine cationic trypsin and/or trypsin-like immunoreactivity (TLI) canine cationic trypsinogen which comprises ~~an effective amount of a~~ the monoclonal antibody according to Claim 1.

Claim 9 (currently amended): The immunoassay ~~reagent kit~~ reagent kit according to Claim 8 wherein the ~~trypsin-like immunoreactivity (TLI)~~ canine cationic trypsin and/or canine cationic trypsinogen is a member selected from the group consisting of canine cationic trypsinogen, canine cationic trypsin and their complexes with inhibitors.

Claim 10 (new): The immunoassay method according to Claim 6 wherein the method comprises:

contacting a labeled monoclonal antibody with a test sample;

contacting the resultant sample with a solid-phase second antibody; and

determining the concentration of the target analyte immobilized on the solid phase,

wherein the labeled monoclonal antibody selectively binds canine cationic trypsin and/or canine cationic trypsinogen, but does not bind canine anionic trypsin nor canine anionic trypsinogen.

Claim 11 (new): The immunoassay method according to Claim 6 wherein the method comprises:

- contacting a solid phase monoclonal antibody with a test sample;
- contacting the resultant sample with a labeled second antibody; and
- determining the concentration of the target analyte immobilized on the solid phase,

wherein the solid phase monoclonal antibody selectively binds canine cationic trypsin and/or canine cationic trypsinogen, but does not bind canine anionic trypsin nor canine anionic trypsinogen.

Claim 12 (new): The immunoassay method according to Claim 6 wherein the method comprises:

- contacting a test sample with a labeled target analyte;
- contacting the resultant sample with a solid-phase monoclonal antibody; and
- determining the concentration of the target analyte immobilized on the solid phase,

wherein the solid phase monoclonal antibody selectively binds canine cationic trypsin and/or canine cationic trypsinogen, but does not bind canine anionic trypsin nor canine anionic trypsinogen.

Claim 13 (new): The immunoassay kit according to Claim 8 wherein the kit comprises a labeled monoclonal antibody and a solid-phase second antibody, wherein the labeled monoclonal antibody selectively binds canine cationic trypsin and/or canine cationic trypsinogen, but does not bind canine anionic trypsin nor canine anionic trypsinogen.

Claim 14 (new): The immunoassay kit according to Claim 8 wherein the kit comprises a solution comprising a labeled monoclonal antibody and a solid-phase second antibody, wherein the labeled monoclonal antibody selectively binds canine cationic trypsin and/or canine cationic trypsinogen, but does not bind canine anionic trypsin nor canine anionic trypsinogen.

Claim 15 (new): The immunoassay kit according to Claim 8 wherein the kit comprises a labeled target analyte and a solid-phase monoclonal antibody, wherein the solid-phase monoclonal antibody selectively binds canine cationic trypsin and/or canine cationic trypsinogen, but does not bind canine anionic trypsin nor canine anionic trypsinogen.

Claim 16 (new): The immunoassay kit according to Claim 8 wherein the kit comprises a solution comprising a labeled target analyte and a solid-phase monoclonal antibody, wherein the solid-phase monoclonal antibody selectively binds canine cationic trypsin and/or canine cationic trypsinogen, but does not bind canine anionic trypsin nor canine anionic trypsinogen.